

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 TRSE-00 OMB-01 IO-10 /091 W

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R 211043Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5108

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL UDORN

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC

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MANILA FOR USADB

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, PFOR, PINT, LA

SUBJ: AUGUST 21 PRESS CONFERENCE BY PGNU SPOKESMAN

1. LAO PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNION SPOKES-  
MAN OUDAY SOUVANNAVONG REPORTED TO THE PRESS AUGUST 21  
ON THE AUGUST 20 PGNU CABINET MEETING. PRINCIPAL SUBJECTS  
WERE FOLLOWING:

2. NAM NGUM PHASE II: ACCORDING TO OUDAY, THE CABINET  
FIRST HEARD FROM THE MINISTER AND SECRETARY OF STATE OF  
PUBLIC WORKS ABOUT THE TALKS THE MINISTER, SINGKAPO S.  
CHOUNAMALY, HAD HELD WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ASIAN  
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DEVELOPMENT BANK, NOW VISITING VIENTIANE, REGARDING

THE CONSTRUCTION OF NAM NGUM PHASE II. THE CABINET DECIDED TO APPROVE THE ADB'S SUGGESTION OF MEETING OF THE TEN DONOR NATIONS IN SEPTEMBER IN ORDER TO DETERMINE THE EXACT POSITION OF EACH DONOR CONCERNING PHASE II. OUDAY ADDED: "AS YOU KNOW, THERE ARE RUMORS THAT CERTAIN COUNTRIES HAVE SOME RESERVATIONS ABOUT GIVING AID. THE PGNU HOPES THAT AFTER THIS MEETING THE SITUATION WILL BECOME CLEAR AND NEAT. IN ANY CASE, THE GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED, AS I SAID LAST TIME, THAT LAOS WILL COMPLETE THE SECOND PHASE NO MATTER WHAT."

3. DELEGATION TO HANOI: THE CABINET DECIDED THAT THE LAO DELEGATION TO THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATION OF NORTH VIET-NAM ON SEPTEMBER 2 WOULD BE COMPOSED OF: LEUAM INSISIENGMAI, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF EDUCATION; KITHONG VONGAY, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS; DR. KHAMLIENG PHOLSENA, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH (LAO PATRIOTIC FRONT); AND KHAMSOUK KEOLA (LPF), VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT NATIONAL POLITICAL COUNCIL. THERE WOULD ALSO BE TWO OTHER UNNAMED MEMBERS OF THE JNPC, FOUR OFFICIALS FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND AN OFFICER FROM THE LAO EMBASSY AT HANOI. PRINCE SOUPHANOUVONG (LPF), JNPC CHAIRMAN, HAD BEEN ASKED TO HEAD THE GROUP BUT HAD NOT YET GIVEN HIS RESPONSE. IF SOUPHANOUVONG WENT, LEUAM AND KHAMSOUK WOULD THEN SERVE AS VICE CHAIRMEN.

4. CHANGES AT PTT: SOMPHONE NAOVALATH, INSECTOR OF POSTS, IS TO REPLACE SATTASINH BANNAVONG AS DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE MINISTRY. SATTASINH IS TO RETURN TO THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR. (COMMENT: THE PTT MINISTRY HAS BEEN THE SCENE OF CONSIDERABLE INTERNAL STRIFE OF LATE, CENTERED ON THE AFFAIR OF THE U.S. BICENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS, AND COMPLETE WITH ANGRY EXCHANGES IN THE NEWSPAPERS BETWEEN DIFFERENT FACTIONS. SATTASINH'S RUSTICATION SEEMS TO INDICATE THAT PTT MINISTER KHAMPHENG BOUPHA'S POSITION IS SAFE FOR THE MOMENT. HE HAD BEEN A TARGET OF THE FACTION ALLIED WITH SATTASINH.)

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5. ROYAL AND PRIME MINISTERIAL TRAVEL: OUDAY ANNOUNCED THAT SOMETIME PREVIOUS TO THE AUGUST 20 CABINET MEETING, PRIME MINISTER SOUVANNA PHOUMA HAD DECIDED NOT TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY ON HIS PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED TRIP. HE MADE THIS DECISION "BECAUSE OF THE SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY." (SEE ALSO VIENTIANE 5310, NOTAL). THE CABINET, AFTER STUDYING THE INTERNAL SITUATION, DECIDED UNANIMOUSLY

TO SUGGEST TO THE KING THAT HE POSTPONE (NOT "CANCEL"  
BUT "POSTPONE," OUDAY INSISTED) TO A LATER DATE HIS  
STATE VISIT TO "SEVERAL FRIENDLY COUNTRIES." THE TRIP  
WOULD THEREFORE TAKE PLACE LATE THIS YEAR OR EARLY NEXT.  
THE PRIME MINISTER HAD ALREADY CONVEYED THE CABINET'S  
SUGGESTION TO THE PALACE AND THE CABINET WAS AWAITING  
A REPLY.

6. RED LAOTIANS: A REPORTER ASKED WHY THE "THAI  
REACTIONARIES" HAD USED THE TERM "RED LAOTIANS" IN  
AN ARTICLE IN THE BANGKOK POST. OUDAY REPLIED THAT  
IT WOULD BE BEST TO ASK THAT QUESTION OF THE AUTHORS  
OF THE ARTICLE.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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